

Ann Marie Schmidt and David Stern  
Serial No.: 09/167,705  
Filed: October 6, 1998  
Page 2

have hereinabove canceled claims 1-9 without prejudice to applicants right to pursue the subject matter in a later-filed application. Applicants have hereinabove amended claim 10. Applicants contend that this amendment does not involve any issue of new matter. Support for this amendment may be found inter alia in the specification on page 6, lines 14-16, lines 21-22 and lines 27-28. Accordingly, claims 10-69 will be pending in the subject application upon entry of this Amendment.

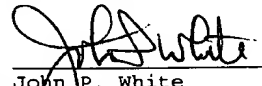
If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorneys invite the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



John P. White  
Registration No. 28,678  
Attorney for Applicants  
Cooper & Dunham LLP  
1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10036  
(212) 278-0400

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
	3/5/99
John P. White Reg. No. 28,678	Date